

Today, officials in Glenview [discovered](#) their first case of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). The beetles are metallic green and approximately a half-inch-long, and feast primarily on ash trees. Already, 25 million ash trees have been killed because of the beetle. Seven states have reported the presence of the beetles, including Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Before this announcement, only two communities had reported trees with EAB – Wilmette and Winnetka.

With this latest development, it is more important than ever to contain the beetle so that Illinois' 140 million ash trees are not placed at risk. That's why I introduced the Emerald Ash Borer Municipality Assistance Act of 2007 ([link](#)). The bill establishes a loan fund for cities to assist in the removal, disposal and replacement of ash trees within quarantined areas. The bill ensures that local authorities have the necessary funds to quickly identify and remediate EAB infestations.

We are grateful for Glenview's screening operations – by being proactive and vigilant, we can help stop the spread of the beetle.

You can read more about the Emerald Ash Borer [here](#) .